SENATE BILL   No. 712

Introduced by Senator Maldonado

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 88500 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

SB 712, as introduced, Maldonado. Community colleges: economic and workforce development program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes them to provide instruction at community college campuses. Existing law establishes, and sets forth the mission of, an economic and workforce development program as part of the responsibilities of the California Community Colleges.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes in the provision that sets forth the mission of the economic and workforce development program of the California Community Colleges.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1   SECTION 1. Section 88500 of the Education Code is
2   amended to read:
3   88500. The mission of the economic and workforce
4   development program, subject to approval and amendment by the
5   Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, shall
6   include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following:

1   (a) To advance California's economic growth and global
2 competitiveness through ~~high quality~~ *high-quality* education and
3 services focusing on continuous workforce improvement,
4 technology deployment, and business development, consistent
5 with the current needs of the state's regional economies.
6   (b) To maximize and leverage the resources of the California
7 Community Colleges to fulfill its role as the primary provider in
8 ~~fulfilling~~ *satisfying* the vocational education and training needs
9 of California business and industry.
10   (c) To work with representatives of business, labor, and
11 professional trade associations to explore and develop new
12 alternatives for assisting incumbent workers. A key objective is
13 to enable incumbent workers to become more competitive in
14 their region's labor market, increase competency, and identify
15 career paths to economic self-sufficiency and lifelong access to
16 good-paying jobs. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to,
17 career ladder approaches.
18   (d) To collaborate with other state and local agencies,
19 including partners under the federal Workforce Investment Act
20 of 1998 (Public Law 105-220), and the Technology, Trade, and
21 Commerce Agency, to deliver services that meet statewide and
22 regional workforce, business development, technology transfer,
23 and trade needs that attract, retain, and expand businesses.
24   (e) To develop local economic development agencies, the
25 private sector, and labor and community groups, innovative
26 solutions, as needed, in identified strategic priority areas,
27 including, but not necessarily limited to, advanced transportation,
28 biotechnology, small business, applied competitive technologies,
29 including computer integrated manufacturing, production and
30 continuous quality improvement, business and workforce
31 improvement, environmental technologies, health care delivery,
32 multimedia/entertainment, international trade, and workplace
33 literacy. Strategic priority areas that may be explored if new or
34 additional funding becomes available may include information
35 technology, e-commerce and e-trade, and nanotechnology.
36   (f) To identify, acquire, and leverage community college and
37 other vocational training resources when possible, to support
38 local, regional, and statewide economic development.

1   (g) To create effective logistical, technical, and marketing
2 infrastructure support for economic development activities within
3 the California Community Colleges.
4   (h) To optimize access to community colleges' economic
5 development services.
6   (i) To develop strategic public and private sector partnerships.
7   (j) To assist communities experiencing military base
8 downsizing and closure.

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